

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

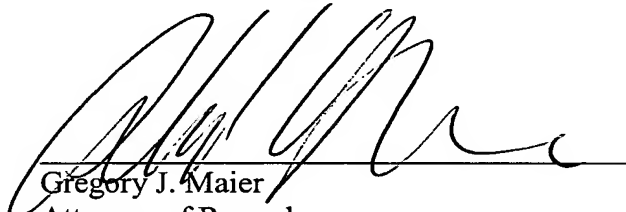
Claims 1-20 are presently pending in this application, Claims 21-30 having been canceled, and Claims 1-3, 6, 11-13 and 16 having been amended by the present amendment.

Applicant respectfully requests that Claims 21-30 be canceled without prejudice and that Claims 1-3, 6, 11-13 and 16 be amended as presented herein. These amended claims are believed to find clear support in the original specification, claims and drawings. Hence, no new matter is believed to be added thereby.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the claims as presently amended, and earnestly solicits an early and favorable action.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Akihiro Yamazaki
Registration No. 46,155

GJM/AY:fm
I:\ATTY\AKY\23s\238551\CONT\RCE AME.DOC